



CROP-WEATHER REPORT

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National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

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Week of March 21 - March 27, 2005

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Precipitation with colder temperatures.

About half the state short of topsoil moisture.

Barley seeding ahead of average pace.

Temperatures through Friday averaged below normal except in a few western areas. Above normal precipitation was reported in much of the state, with stations mostly in the Northeast reporting below normal amounts. The week saw widespread rain and snow. Daytime highs were in the mid 40's to upper 50's while nighttime temperatures dropped mostly into the teens and low twenties.

Rain and snow improved moisture supplies. As of March 26, 47 percent of the State had adequate or surplus topsoil moisture, just ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Thirty-three percent of the state had adequate or surplus stock water supplies, down from 54 percent last year.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

TOPSOIL	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Very Short	20	-	16	13
Short	33	-	38	42
Adeq	42	-	45	42
Surp	5	-	1	3

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Pltd	39	24	42	23
Oats Pltd	7	-	7	2
Spring Wheat Pltd	3	-	7	3
Sugarbeets	0	-	0	2

FIELD CROP REPORT: An average of 1.9 days were suitable for field work during the week. Early season planting continued in many areas. Barley planted, at 39 percent, was 3 points behind last year but 16 points ahead of average. The oats crop was 7 percent planted, unchanged from last year and 5 points ahead of average pace. Spring wheat planting began and was at 3 percent, 4 points behind last year but the same as the average pace.

Winter wheat condition slipped from last month, but conditions remained much better than last year. Fifty-three percent of the crop was in good to excellent condition. Last year at this time, only 20 percent of the crop was in good condition.

CROP CONDITION TABLE

ITEM	V POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL
Percent					
Range and Pasture	44	15	24	13	4
Winter Wht	0	13	34	51	2

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS TABLE

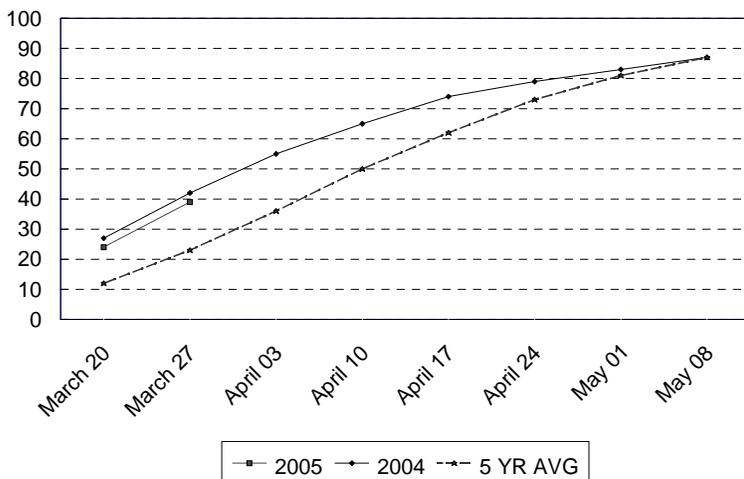
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Spring Calves Born	44	-	49	51
Farm Flock Ewes Lambed	51	-	52	57
Farm Flock Sheep Shorn	57	-	57	60
Range Flock Ewes Lambed	8	-	6	8
Range Flock Sheep Shorn	17	-	20	19

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Stock water supplies were rated adequate or surplus in 33 percent of the State, down 21 points from last year. Shortages were particularly notable in the Northeast. Forty-four percent of spring calves were born, 5 points behind last year and 7 points behind average. Farm flock lambing was at 51 percent, slightly behind last year and 6 points behind average. Fifty-seven percent of the farm flock was shorn, the same as last year and 3 points behind average. Nearly 60 percent of the state's ranges and pastures were rated in poor or very poor condition. Last year at this time, only 19 percent was rated poor or very poor.

WEATHER SUMMARY: For the week ending Friday, March 25, temperatures averaged below normal for most of the state. Temperatures ranged from 6.0 degrees below normal in Redbird to 3.1 degrees above normal in Jackson. The low temperature for the month was recorded in Recluse at 1 degree, and the high temperature was 59 at Casper and Worland. Precipitation averaged above normal for most of the State. The most precipitation fell in Afton and Big Piney with 0.73 inches and Cheyenne with 0.56 inches. Nearly all stations are below normal for the year.

Barley Planted

Percent



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 25,2005

TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION					
STATION	MAX	MIN	NORM	WEEK	NORM	DATE	WEEK	NORM
SNAKE DRAINAGE								
Jackson	46	23	3.1	0.46	0.22	2.43	3.47	-1.04
Afton	44	21	1.2	0.73	0.39	3.54	3.86	-0.32
GREEN & BEAR DRAINAGE								
Uinta County AP	46	21	-1.6	0.38	0.18	1.23	2.06	-0.83
Big Piney AP	43	16	1.1	0.73	0.60	2.18	1.03	1.15
Rock Springs AP	50	16	-2.3	0.25	0.07	1.25	1.74	-0.49
BIG HORN DRAINAGE								
Cody	54	15	-4.3	0.35	0.22	0.72	1.15	-0.43
Deaver	58	14	-4.1	0.06	0.02	0.87	0.45	0.42
Greybull AP	57	22	-4.0	0.04	-0.04	0.21	1.00	-0.79
Powell Field St	57	17	-4.6	0.03	-0.03	0.36	0.53	-0.17
Worland FAA AP	59	21	-3.2	0.12	0.01	0.29	0.84	-0.55
POWDER, LITTLE MO. & TONGUE DRAINAGE								
Kaycee	57	11	-4.6	0.20	0.00	0.70	1.45	-0.75
Sheridan WSO AP	57	20	-2.9	0.12	-0.12	1.89	2.11	-0.22
BELLE FOURCHE DRAINAGE								
Recluse 11NNW	52	1	-5.1	0.00	-0.18	0.52	1.42	-0.90
CHEYENNE & NIOBRARA DRAINAGE								
Newcastle	57	17	-1.9	0.29	0.11	1.43	1.71	-0.28
Redbird	50	13	-6.0	0.32	0.13	0.93	1.40	-0.47
LOWER PLATTE DRAINAGE								
Archer	58	13	-2.3	0.39	0.13	1.51	1.84	-0.33
Casper AP	59	19	-2.4	0.46	0.24	0.93	1.95	-1.02
Cheyenne AP	54	19	-1.8	0.56	0.32	0.84	1.79	-0.95
Chugwater	56	17	-2.6	0.21	-0.01	1.19	2.03	-0.84
Douglas AP	56	12	-2.6	0.27	0.07	0.88	1.58	-0.70
Torrington AP	58	18	-2.6	0.11	-0.07	0.38	1.32	-0.94
Wheatland 4 N	56	17	-4.9	0.15	0.01	0.59	1.08	-0.49
WIND RIVER DRAINAGE								
Lander AP	54	17	-1.6	0.44	0.12	1.87	2.01	-0.14
Riverton AP	54	19	-1.4	0.16	0.03	0.62	0.89	-0.27
UPPER PLATTE DRAINAGE								
Laramie AP	48	16	-0.9	0.30	0.11	0.86	1.55	-0.69
Rawlins AP	52	21	1.4	0.17	0.00	1.18	1.60	-0.42
Saratoga	49	21	-0.6	0.21	0.02	1.61	1.53	0.08

BLANKS - INDICATE MISSING DATA.

AP - AIRPORT. T - TRACE. () - ESTIMATES.

1/LATE REPORTS CAN CHANGE PREVIOUS WEEK'S CUMULATIVE TOTALS.